

### TRAILS OF REDWOOD CANYON

The Redwood Canyon contains the largest of all sequoia groves and the largest area of old-growth sequoia trees. As you hike, you will see signs of many fire – some recent, some ancient. Prescribed fires have been used in portions of this grove to reduce fuel, restoring the forest more closely to the condition it was in 100 years ago. Look for young sequoia in these burned areas, as giant sequoias reproduce most successfully after fire. The Redwood Canyon Trailhead is 6 ½ miles from the Grant Grove Visitor Center. From Grant Grove, drive 5 miles south on the Generals Highway, turn right at Quail Flat onto a rough dirt road. Continue for 1 ½ miles to Redwood Saddle, and follow the left fork to the parking area.

## Sugar Bowl Loop: 6.4 miles

Sometimes referred to as the "grove within a grove," this portion of the Redwood Canyon Grove is particularly enjoyable because of the high density of young sequoias. Following the trailhead sign to the right, ascend a ridge of Redwood Mountain for 1.5 miles where a series of switchbacks lead to an overlook of Big Baldy. Continue to the summit to another overlook at 2 miles. The trail descends into the Sugar Bowl, a dense stand of mature and young sequoia. After descending into the canyon you will encounter Redwood Creek and the junction to the Hart Tree. Follow the trail to the left back to the parking area.

# Hart Tree and Fallen Goliath Loop: 6.5 miles

This alternate loop provides numerous vista points and a taste of the human history that are part of the Redwood Canyon experience. Follow the old dirt road .3 miles to the trail sign. Turning left and crossing fern-lined Redwood Creek, Barton's Post Camp marks the remains of an old logging site from the 1800's. The trail continues past lovely Hart Meadow and though Tunnel Tree, a hollowed out giant sequoia. At 3.2 miles you reach a spur trail to the largest tree in the grove, the Hart Tree. After passing a small waterfall, you soon encounter the Fallen Goliath. The trail will descend to the Redwood Canyon Trail leading to Big Springs (another 3 mile spur) and shortly the junction to the Sugar Bowl Loop. Veer right at both and continue up canyon, parallel to Redwood Creek and back to the parking area.

### **Redwood Mountain Loop: 10 miles**

A hike that combines both the Sugar Bowl and the Hart Tree Loops makes for a long day-trip or an overnight adventure. A wilderness permit is required for overnight camping.

### **Buena Vista: 2 miles**

This easy hike will provide the hiker with great views of Redwood Canyon, Buck Rock and the high peaks of Kings Canyon. The trail head is 6 miles south of Grant Grove on the Generals Highway, and on the right just past the Kings Canyon Overlook. The trail rises 450 feet in elevation and passes through several wildflower bedecked areas and some beautiful stands of Jeffrey Pines.

### Big Baldy: 4 miles

Following the Big Baldy Ridge to the peak itself will reward the hiker with more wonderful views of Redwood Canyon and high country peaks. Drive south on the Generals Highway 8 miles to the Big Baldy Trailhead. The 600 foot elevation gain to Big Baldy, 8,209 feet, affords a 360 degree panorama.

# Trails of the Redwood Canyon Area

